



BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

NYS OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION
& HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
(518) 474-0479

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

UNIQUE SITE NO. _____
QUAD _____
SERIES _____
NEG. NO. _____

YOUR NAME: Cynthia Hawk DATE: Dec., 1994
133 S. Fitzhugh St.

YOUR ADDRESS: Rochester, NY 14608 TELEPHONE: 546-7029

ORGANIZATION (if any): The Landmark Society of Western New York, Inc.

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME(S): Barnard Fire House No. 1
2. COUNTY: Monroe TOWN/CITY: Greece VILLAGE: ---
3. STREET LOCATION: 3084 Dewey Avenue (S.E. corner of Clark Park).
4. OWNERSHIP: a. public ☐ b. private ☒
5. PRESENT OWNER: Barnard Fire District ADDRESS: (same) Rochester, NY 14616
6. USE: Original: firehouse Present: firehouse
7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes ☒ No ☐
Interior accessible: Explain neighborhood fire station

DESCRIPTION

8. BUILDING MATERIAL: a. clapboard ☐ b. stone ☐ c. brick ☐ d. board and batten ☐
e. cobblestone ☐ f. shingles ☐ g. stucco ☒ other: 1955 & 1968 addition
Foundation not visible; asphalt shingle roof. = concrete block.
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: a. wood frame with interlocking joints ☐
(if known) b. wood frame with light members ☒
c. masonry load bearing walls ☐
d. metal (explain) _____
e. other 1955 & 1968 additions - masonry load bearing walls
10. CONDITION: a. excellent ☒ b. good ☐ c. fair ☐ d. deteriorated ☐
11. INTEGRITY: a. original site ☒ b. moved ☐ if so, when? _____
c. list major alterations and dates (if known): _____
(see continuation sheet)

12. PHOTO:

13. MAP:

"There is very good detailing on this building. It has a picturesque composition.
Let's make it a 'green plus.' " P.Malo

COLOR CODE

Green plus



14. THREATS TO BUILDING: a. none known ☒ b. zoning ☐ c. roads ☐
d. developers ☐ e. deterioration ☐
f. other: _____
15. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS AND PROPERTY:
a. barn ☐ b. carriage house ☐ c. garage ☒
d. privy ☐ e. shed ☐ f. greenhouse ☐
g. shop ☐ h. gardens ☐
i. landscape features: _____
j. other: large asphalt parking lot to N. & E. of building
16. SURROUNDINGS OF THE BUILDING (check more than one if necessary):
a. open land ☐ b. woodland ☐
c. scattered buildings ☐
d. densely built-up ☒ e. commercial ☒
f. industrial ☐ g. residential ☒
h. other: Bethany Presbyterian Church campus (to south);
St. Joseph's Villa campus to north.
17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:
(Indicate if building or structure is in an historic district)

(see continuation sheet)

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known):

(see continuation sheet)

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: 1928; 1936-37; 1955 & 1968 additions.
- ARCHITECT: John F. Strobel (1928); Waasdorp & Northrop (1955); 1968 - not determined.
- BUILDER: not determined 1936-37 - not determined;
20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

(see continuation sheet)

21. SOURCES: (see continuation sheet)

22. THEME: public safety

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11c.

Contemporary overhead garage doors added to fire truck bays on west facade.

Original windows were pairs of 8-paned, steel casement windows with 4-paned horizontal transoms (seen in 1940 photo); they have been removed and replaced by 1/1 double-hung, wood sash.

The two-story, rear (east) center addition was constructed in 1936-37 as a W.P.A. project.

The one-story, northeast addition was constructed in 1955; it is of concrete block with stucco veneer.

The one-story, southeast addition was constructed in 1968; it is of concrete block construction with stucco veneer.

The exterior handicapped ramp at the northeast corner is a contemporary addition (c. 1980s).

In the original 1928 front building, a large open work/vehicle space was created by removing the wall separating the two original fire truck bays. A steel beam was installed overhead to provide structural support (c. 1960s-'70s).

17. The Barnard Fire Department is located on the east side of Dewey Avenue, at the southeast corner of Clark Parkway, in the southeast quadrant of the town of Greece. The front of the building faces Dewey Avenue. To the north and east is a large parking. Several small garages are located to the rear (east). The campus of St. Joseph's Villa is located to north. Bethany Presbyterian Church campus is located to the south.

The development along Dewey Avenue is primarily commercial with many buildings dating from the mid-20th century. To the west and east is a residential neighborhood that is a mix of early 1900s and post-World War II frame houses.

18. The Barnard Fire Department is a large building that has been constructed during four major building campaigns. The historic sections of the building include the 1928 original fire house and its 1936-37 two-story, rear (east) wing. The

18. continued

non-historic sections of the building include the 1955 one-story, northeast wing and the 1968 one-story, southeast wing.

The original, Tudor Revival-style, 1928 fire house is a two-story, side-gabled, stucco veneer (over 2" x 12" wood studs and wire lath) building. It is three bays wide by two bays deep. Fenestration is regular and consists of 1/1, double-hung wood sash with cast concrete sills and lintels (replaced original steel, casement sash). The facade includes a dominant, steeply-pitched gable, two dormers with half-timber detailing, and two garage doors (contemporary). The main entrance features a gabled hood with open, half-timbered, wood trim, support brackets and a heavy, tongue-and-groove, wood door with long, wrought iron hinges. The lettering "BARNARD FIRE DEPT." is located over the south garage door. A massive, Tudor Revival brick chimney with cast concrete trim is on the south elevation. A second tall, brick chimney is located at the northeast corner of this section. An open, gabled cupola with half-timber detailing (and a siren inside) tops the ridgeline of this 1928 section.

The two-story 1936-37 addition is designed in the same Tudor Revival style. It has a stucco exterior, 1/1 double-hung, wood sash and dormers with half-timber detailing.

The interior of 1928 fire house features a front vestibule entrance with a metal plaque on the north wall citing the name of the building, date of construction, the architect, names of commissioners and name of the donor of this site. The vestibule opens into a reception/living room area with brick fireplace, wood mantel and a tile hearth on the south wall. The wood wainscoting in this room is a 1970s addition.

The interiors of both the 1928 and 1936-37 sections include black slate stair treads and landings, wood stair railings with metal balusters and newel posts, bathrooms with original white tile floors, marble stall dividers and fixtures. The original dispatcher's office is also intact on the first floor. A large meeting room (the original Greece Fire Commissioner's office), offices, and sleeping rooms are located on the second floor. Much of the original interior wood trim is also intact. The original metal firemen's pole extends from the second floor to the truck bays on the first floor through a circular opening. In 1978 several decorative murals were painted on two north walls (stairwell and meeting

18. continued

room) as a C.E.T.A. project by artist Robert J. Genovese; the theme of the murals is "historic fire fighting."

The 1955 northeast addition is of concrete block with stucco veneer. Windows along the north elevation have large, single-pane glass and cast concrete sills (same sill design as the historic front part of the building). Three contemporary, overhead, garage doors and a handicapped ramp are located on the east elevation. A pedestrian entrance at the northeast corner has a decorative metal hood with scroll brackets that appears to have been removed from the former south elevation door (1936-37 addition) and re-installed over this newer entrance. The original south elevation site of this metal hood is visible in a 1940 photo.

The 1968 southeast addition is also of concrete block with stucco veneer. A large, overhead garage door with multiple glass panes is located on the northeast elevation. Fenestration is 1/1 double-hung sash with cast concrete sills. A glass-walled hypen connects the 1955 and 1968 additions.

Both the 1955 and 1968 additions provide five additional bays for the storage of fire vehicles/equipment.

A lawn is located to the west (front) and south of the building. Here are located a tall metal flag pole and a small, granite marker with metal commemorative plaque. The 1928 building and the north elevation of the 1955 addition are covered with ivy vines (also visible in a 1940 photograph).

Several non-contributing, contemporary garages are located to the east (rear) of the fire department.

18. Originally built in 1928 (with contributing 1936-37 addition), this fire house is architecturally significant as a distinctive example of early 20th-century Tudor Revival, suburban architecture. Although the building has undergone changes and additions, its historic form and Tudor Revival details are mostly intact. It is a unique building in the town, as the only example of an early, 20th-century, Tudor Revival style firehouse. Its only counterparts in the county are the three Tudor Revival style firehouses in the town of Brighton (Clover St., Elmwood Ave., and Linden Ave.), all of

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which are threatened with either demolition or major remodeling. Historically, the building is significant for its association with the evolution of fire fighting and public safety in the town.

The early 20th-century, Tudor Revival style was loosely based on a variety of late Medieval English prototypes, ranging from thatched-roof cottages to grand manor houses. These traditions are freely mixed in their American counterparts and include steeply pitched, front-facing gables, false half-timbering, and stucco, masonry, or masonry-veneered walls. After World War I, the style expanded explosively in popularity during the 1920s and '30s as masonry veneering techniques allowed even the most modest examples to mimic closely the brick, stone, and stucco exteriors seen on English prototypes. The style quickly faded from fashion in the late 1930s, but has become popular in somewhat modified form during the Neoecclectic movement of the 1970s and '80s.

Characteristics of this style shown in the Barnard Fire Department building include the stucco exterior, half-timbered dormers, massive south brick chimney, bracketed front entrance with half-timber gable woodwork, and the heavy tongue-and-groove front door with long, iron strap hinges.

The Tudor Revival style was often used for commercial and municipal buildings in early 20th-century suburban areas. The goal was to make these non-residential buildings "blend in" with their adjacent residential neighborhoods. In Monroe County, examples of this distinctive Tudor Revival-style fire house architecture are seen in only two towns: Greece (1 fire house) and Brighton (three fire houses).

The fire companies of today were not organized until the 1920s, when Greece-Ridge and North Greece became the town's first formally organized companies. Eastman Kodak had a bucket brigade of volunteers that held drills and used buckets and hoses to battle company fires. At Ada, the Fetzners kept a hose cart and pumper in their barn, where they could quickly be made available for Ridge Road fires.

With the early 20th-century suburban development of the southeast part of Greece, the Barnard Fire District was organized in 1927 to meet the need for modern fire protection. Original commissioners Leon L. Cox, Charles R.

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Strickland and Walter H. Hanf selected Herbert Thomas as the first chief. From 32 charter members, it soon grew to over 100, opened its ranks to social members and soon passed the 200 mark. On September 17, 1927, the department held its first field day at St. Charles Field.

The original Barnard Fire Department fire house was constructed in 1928 on land donated by George H. Clark. Clark owned the large farm to the north (site of St. Joseph's Villa). The adjacent Clark Parkway is named for him.

The building was designed by Rochester architect, John F. Strobel. Strobel, born in 1874, formed the partnership of Crandell and Strobel in 1906 with Charles Crandall. The partnership was dissolved in 1920 and Strobel continued the office for about ten years. During that time he was architect for the Episcopal Church of the Ascension and the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, in addition to this fire house. The original ink-on-linen architect drawings still survive (on file in the fire house). These drawings also show proposed changes to the building that were never executed.

A metal plaque on the north wall of the front vestibule reads as follows:

Barnard Fire House No. 1
Site donated by
Mr. George H. Clark
Commissioners
Walter G. Hanf, chairman
Charles R. Strickland
Leon L. Cox
William J.C. Arledge, treasurer
John F. Strobel, architect
1928

Ironically, this station was designated "fire house no. 1."
A "fire house no. 2," however, was never constructed.

In 1932 the Greece Police Department was organized. Headquarters were in a room of this fire station. Two of the fireman were made part time officers to man the phone when no police officers were there. The Police Department eventually moved to the Town Hall, when that building was enlarged in

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the 1950s.

In 1934 the first minstrel show was held, an event that remained popular for many years and helped raise money for equipment purchases. Noted for their fine equipment, Barnard firemen became the first in Monroe County to have fire radios installed in their homes.

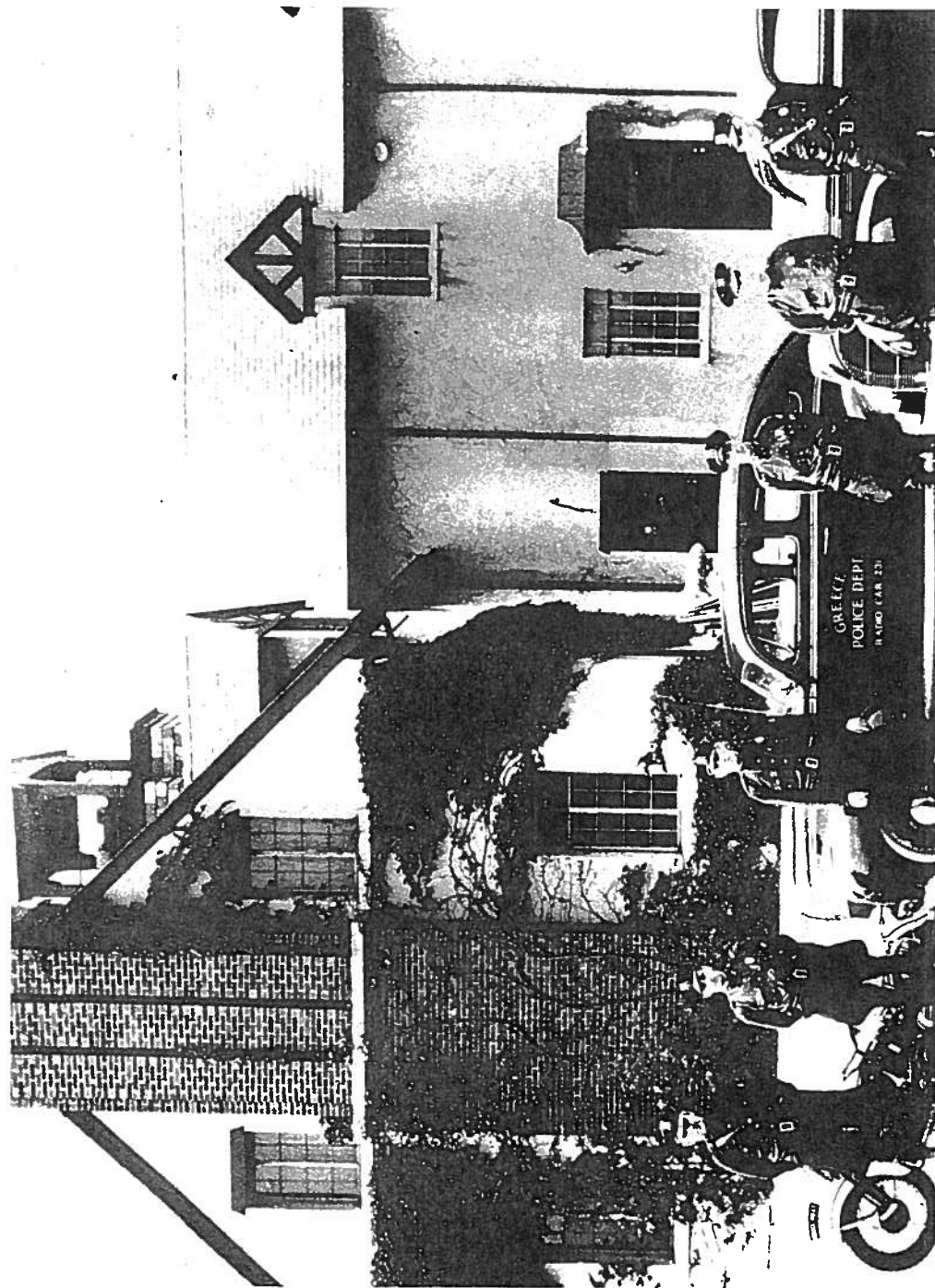
In 1935 the Barnard Exempt Firemen's Assn. was incorporated. Dedication of the Exempts club, built entirely by members on a 16-acre plot off Maiden Lane in 1938, was another milestone event. Its foundation blocks came from a fire ravaged restaurant on Ridge Road. St. Charles Borromeo donated their frame school for the grounds in 1937. Meals are still served to the public and the club is used for many social gatherings.

In 1936-37, the original fire house was expanded with a two-story east wing, constructed under the auspices of the W.P.A. (Works Progress Administration). It was designed in the same Tudor Revival style as the original front part of the building.

With the growth of the community and the change in modern fire fighting equipment/vehicles, the Barnard fire station has been expanded several times: 1955 (northeast wing) and 1968 (southeast wing). Although the interior has also been expanded, much of the historic design and materials from the 1928 and 1936-37 construction are intact.

21. See final report for bibliography;

Interview & tour of building with Lt. Michael Heberger,
1/1995.



The Greece Police Dept. was founded in 1932 and operated from a room in the Barnard Fire Dept. building on Dewey Ave. until moved to the Town Hall in the 1950s. Pictured from left to right are Roy Hinchey, John Swanton, Cyril Vervure, William Gray, Frank Pitcher and Chief Milton Carter. Photo about 1940.



